

Jed does not just make great wine—he is an innovator who gives back to his industry. In 1977, he produced the first commercial American ice wine from grapes grown in Mendocino County. He was also a leader in the creation of American Viticultural Areas in Anderson Valley and Clear Lake. He was the founder and served as director of the annual Mendocino County Wine judging.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize Jed Steele for his many years of leadership and excellence in winemaking. The American wine industry owes him an enormous debt of gratitude. I join the other members of the Congressional Wine Caucus and the entire community in wishing him continued success and fulfillment.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL
RAYMOND L. WEBSTER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Major General Raymond L. Webster, Assistant to the Surgeon General of the Iowa Air National Guard and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to his state and country.

Major General Raymond L. Webster earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Saint Louis University in 1974, followed later by a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Missouri in 1978, a Master of Public Health degree from Johns Hopkins University in 1983, and attended Air War College through correspondence in 2001.

In 1974, General Webster's long and distinguished career in America's armed forces began when he was commissioned as a Health Professions Scholarship Student at the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine. He served on active duty in the Air Force from 1979–1986 as a squadron flight surgeon, resident in aerospace medicine, and chief of aeromedical services. In 1986, he joined the Iowa Air National Guard as a physician/flight surgeon and in 1993 became the 132nd Medical Squadron Commander. In 2001, General Webster became the first Air National Guard Medical Assistant to the Air Force's Space Command. Prior to this, he served as the Air National Guard Assistant to the Air Combat Command Surgeon General.

For the past 36 years, General Webster has served faithfully and honorably, earning a long list of military awards and decorations. Most recently, he will be receiving the Distinguished Service Medal from the President of the United States, as authorized by Congress. General Webster's long-standing commitment to the Iowa Air National Guard and his country has earned him the respect and honor of all who have served with him. For this I offer him my utmost congratulations and thanks.

I commend Major General Raymond L. Webster for his many years of loyalty and service to our great nation. It is an immense honor to represent General Webster in the United States Congress, and I wish him a happy retirement from the Iowa Air National Guard and all the best in his future endeavors.

WIPA AND PABSS EXTENSION ACT
OF 2010

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2010

Mr. POMEROY. Madam Speaker, today I join with my colleagues, SAM JOHNSON, Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Social Security, and JIM McDERMOTT, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, to introduce legislation to reauthorize the Work Incentives Planning and Assistance program (WIPA) and the Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) program. This bill will ensure that two programs which provide critical assistance for Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability beneficiaries who are seeking to return to work continue for another year.

WIPA and PABSS were both originally established in the bipartisan Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999. WIPA provides \$23 million for community-based organizations to provide personalized assistance to help SSI and Social Security Disability Insurance (DI) recipients understand Social Security's complex work incentive policies and the effect that working will have on their benefits. In 2009, WIPA assisted over 37,000 SSI and DI beneficiaries who wanted to return to work. The PABSS program provides \$7 million in grants to designated Protection and Advocacy Systems to provide legal advocacy services that beneficiaries need to secure, maintain, or regain employment. In 2009, PABSS served nearly 9,000 beneficiaries.

This bill will extend the WIPA and PABSS programs for one year. It also includes two commonsense technical changes to conform the treatment of WIPA and PABSS grantees. The bill would require WIPA grantees to report annually on their services to the Commissioner of Social Security, as PABSS grantees do. Although there have been problems in the past with maintaining an electronic reporting system for this data, we believe those problems are resolved and expect the Social Security Administration to maintain its commitment to an effective system during this extension. The bill would also allow WIPA grantees, like PABSS grantees, to carry over some unspent funding for one year, which will allow for smoother and faster staffing transitions.

This bill does not increase government spending, since the funds will continue to come out of the Social Security Administration's existing administrative budget.

By extending WIPA and PABSS for a year, we reaffirm our commitment to these important work support programs, while also acknowledging the need to consider policy and funding changes in the near future. For example, in 2008, the Social Security Administration made important regulatory changes to address the disappointingly low participation in the early years of the Ticket program. If those changes are successful, they will increase the number of people who are able to transition to work, but they may also increase the number of people who need help from WIPA and PABSS or change the kind of help they need. Funding for WIPA and PABSS has not grown since they were created in 1999.

I urge your support for extending these important programs.

THE WIPA AND PABSS EXTENSION
ACT OF 2010

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2010

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, today I have joined Representatives EARL POMEROY and SAM JOHNSON in introducing the WIPA and PABSS Extension of 2010 that will provide a one-year extension of the Work Incentives Planning Assistance (WIPA) and the Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) programs. These programs provide valuable assistance that help Social Security disability beneficiaries, including Supplemental Security Income recipients, return to work. Through the use of community-based organizations, these programs provide one-on-one legal services and help ensure recipients understand the complex rules that govern their ability to return to work so they are compliant with the Social Security Administration's policies. I look forward to working with my colleagues on long-term reauthorization that continues the important work of these programs.

HONORING BROTHER JOHN G.
DRISCOLL

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2010

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Brother John G. Driscoll who passed away on September 21, 2010. Brother Driscoll served as the sixth president of his undergraduate alma mater, Iona College in New Rochelle, NY, from 1971 to 1995, where he also was a mathematics professor.

A New York City native and long-time member of the Congregation of Christian Brothers, Brother Driscoll earned a PhD in theoretical mathematics from Columbia University. He taught at all educational levels, including elementary and secondary schools in Manhattan and the West Indies, and colleges and universities in four states. In his nearly quarter century as Iona College's top administrator, Brother Driscoll left an impressive legacy in many academic and student life areas. He was inducted into Iona's Hall of Fame in 1994 for his significant contributions in enhancing Iona's athletic department, including expanding women's athletics, developing athletic scholarships in almost all sports and raising the competitive standing of Iona's teams. Because of his active leadership and involvement in a wide range of educational, civic and religious organizations, he also made a lasting mark throughout the broader community of New Rochelle, Westchester County and New York State.

After leaving Iona, Brother Driscoll combined his commitment to lifelong learning and teaching with his passion for Jewish-Catholic studies. In February 1989, Brother Driscoll was appointed director of the Bat Kol Institute